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Focus ON READING

Vocabulary

READING
COMPREHENSION

Tangerine

Edward Bloor

ACTIVATE PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

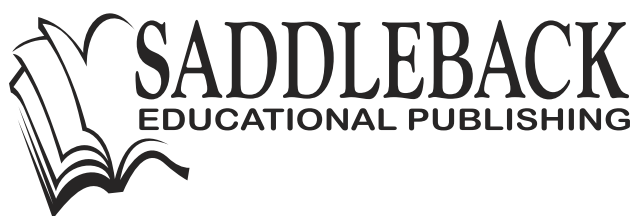
Reproducible Activities



Focus **ON READING**

Tangerine

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Introduction/Classroom Management

WELCOME TO *FOCUS ON READING*

Focus on Reading literature study guides are designed to help all students comprehend and analyze their reading. Many teachers have grappled with the question of how to make quality literature accessible to all students. Students who are already avid readers of quality literature are motivated to read and are familiar with prereading and reading strategies. However, struggling readers frequently lack basic reading skills and are not equipped with the prior knowledge and reading strategies to thoroughly engage in the classroom literature experience.

Focus on Reading is designed to make teachers' and students' lives easier! How? By providing materials that allow all students to take part in reading quality literature. Each *Focus on Reading* study guide contains activities that focus on vocabulary and comprehension skills that students need to get the most from their reading. In addition, each section within the guide contains before-reading **Focus Your Reading** pages containing tools to ensure success: **Vocabulary Words to Know**, **Things to Know**, and **Questions to Think About**. These study aids will help students who may not have the prior knowledge they need to truly comprehend the reading.

USING *FOCUS ON READING*

Focus on Reading is designed to make it easy for you to meet the individual needs of students who require additional reading skills support. Each *Focus on Reading* study guide contains teacher and student support materials, reproducible student activity sheets, an end-of-book test, and an answer key.

- **Focus on the Book**, a convenient reference section for the teacher, provides a brief overview of the entire book including a synopsis, information about the setting, author data, and historical background.
- **Focus Your Knowledge**, a reference page for students, is a whole-book, prereading activity designed to activate prior knowledge and immerse students in the topic.

The study guide divides the novel into 6 manageable sections to make it easy to plan classroom time. Five activities are devoted to each section of the novel.

Before Reading

- **Focus Your Reading** consists of 3 prereading sections:

Vocabulary Words to Know lists and defines 10 vocabulary words students will encounter in their reading. Students will not have to interrupt their reading to look up, ask for, or spend a lot of time figuring out the meaning of unfamiliar words. These words are later studied in-depth within the lesson.

Things to Know identifies terms or concepts that are integral to the reading but that may not be familiar to today's students. This section is intended to "level the playing field" for those students who may not have much prior knowledge about the time period, culture, or theme of the book. It also gets students involved with the book, increasing interest before they begin reading.

Questions to Think About helps students focus on the main ideas and important details they should be looking for as they read. This activity helps give students a *purpose* for reading. The goal of these guiding questions is to build knowledge, confidence, and comfort with the topics in the reading.

During Reading

- **Build Your Vocabulary** presents the 10 unit focus words in the exact context of the book. Students are then asked to write their own definitions and sentences for the words.
- **Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice** offers 10 multiple-choice, literal comprehension questions for each section.
- **Check Your Understanding: Short Answer** contains 10 short-answer questions based on the reading.

After Reading

- **Deepen Your Understanding** is a writing activity that extends appreciation and analysis of the book. This activity focuses on critical-thinking skills and literary analysis.
- **End-of-Book Test** contains 20 multiple-choice items covering the book. These items ask questions that require students to synthesize the information in the book and make inferences in their answers.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

Focus on Reading is very flexible. It can be used by the whole class, by small groups, or by individuals. Each study guide divides the novel into 6 manageable units of study.

This literature comprehension program is simple to use. Just photocopy the lessons and distribute them at the appropriate time as students read the novel.

You may want to reproduce and discuss the **Focus Your Knowledge** page before distributing the paperbacks. This page develops and activates prior knowledge to ensure that students have a grounding in the book before beginning reading. After reading this whole-book prereading page, students are ready to dive into the book.

The **Focus Your Reading** prereading activities are the keystone of this program. They prepare students for what they are going to read, providing focus for the complex task of reading. These pages should be distributed before students actually begin reading the corresponding section of the novel. There are no questions to be answered on these pages; these are for reference and support during reading. Students may choose to take notes on these pages as they read. This will also give students a study tool for review before the **End-of-Book Test**.

The **Focus Your Reading** pages also provide an excellent bridge to home. Parents, mentors, tutors, or

other involved adults can review vocabulary words with students, offer their own insights about the historical and cultural background outlined, and become familiar with the ideas students will be reading about. This can help families talk to students in a meaningful way about their reading, and it gives the adults something concrete to ask about to be sure that students are reading and understanding.

The **Build Your Vocabulary** and **Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice** and **Short Answer** activities should be distributed when students begin reading the corresponding section of the novel. These literature guide pages are intended to help students comprehend and retain what they read; they should be available for students to refer to at any time during the reading.

Deepen Your Understanding is an optional extension activity that goes beyond literal questions about the book, asking students for their own ideas and opinions—and the reasons behind them. These postreading activities generally focus on literary analysis.

As reflected in its title, the **End-of-Book Test** is a postreading comprehension test to be completed after the entire novel has been read.

For your convenience, a clear **Answer Key** simplifies the scoring process.

Focus on the Book

Synopsis

Paul Fisher moves from Texas to Tangerine County, Florida, with his brother, Erik, and his parents. Paul lives in the shadow of his brother, who is a high school football star. His parents seem to care more about Erik and his football career than they do about Paul. Paul is legally blind, and he cannot remember how he lost his eyesight. Even though his vision is impaired, he is perceptive and sees things that others do not.

Paul starts school at Lake Windsor Downs Middle School. He joins the soccer team, but the coach informs him that he is ineligible to play because he is legally blind. Paul gets a second chance when part of the school falls into a sinkhole, and he is relocated to Tangerine Middle School. There he joins the soccer team; no one knows that he is legally blind. Although he has a hard time fitting in with the other players at first, he is eventually accepted.

Throughout the book Paul struggles to remember what happened to his eyesight. He remembers that Erik had something to do with it. He knows that his brother is evil, and he does not trust Erik or Erik's sidekick, Arthur. Paul faces many of his fears about his brother, and by the end of the book, he is no longer afraid of Erik.

Paul strives to prove that he can see. He wants people to realize that he sees more than they do. He sees the kind of person Erik is. He sees what Erik does to hurt others. By the conclusion of the novel, Paul remembers the horrible way he lost his eyesight, and his parents learn of Erik's faults.

About the Author

Edward Bloor was born on October 12, 1950, in Trenton, New Jersey. He started playing soccer when he was eight years old and continued through college at Fordham University in New York. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 1973. After living in New York, Boston, and London, he moved to Florida and became a middle school language arts teacher. In 1984, he married his wife, Pamela. She was also and currently is a middle school language arts teacher. They have two children, Amanda and Spencer.

As a child, Bloor always enjoyed writing. He was inspired by his seventh grade teacher, who asked him to put on a series of commercials in front of the school.

He also wrote plays and stories to entertain his friends and family. Bloor read a lot during his childhood. His favorite books were about sports.

Bloor is currently an editor of reading and language arts textbooks. Part of his job is to read young adult novels. He also continues to write young adult novels.

Bloor published his first book, *Tangerine*, in 1997. Since then, he has received several awards. He was featured as a *Publishers Weekly* Flying Starts author in 1997. *Tangerine* was a 1997 American Bestseller Pick of the Lists, an ALA Top 10 best book, a *Horn Book* Fanfare Book, a *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of the Year, and an Edgar Award nominee.

Historical Background

Although Tangerine County and Lake Windsor Downs are fictional places in Florida, Edward Bloor writes of common occurrences in northern Florida. Since Bloor has lived in Florida for quite some time, he incorporates what he knows about the state in *Tangerine*. Sinkholes, muck fires, and lightning strikes do, in fact, occur in northern Florida. Bloor's inspiration for the novel was the destruction of the citrus groves all around him. In his part of northern Florida, the area has been in a state of transition between the old citrus economy and the new economy that has taken its place. Bloor writes of this transition. In the book, citrus groves are still a part of the economy. The Cruz family still relies on their citrus groves for income. On the other hand, a large part of Tangerine County has been covered by new developments like the one Paul lives in. The trees have been burned, and new houses have been planted in their place.

People who do not live in this area of Florida may think the book is science fiction. They do not realize that the occurrences in *Tangerine* are reality in northern Florida.

Focus Your Knowledge

Although Tangerine County and Lake Windsor Downs are fictional, we know that they are somewhere in northern Florida where the citrus industry was once important.

- Look at the map below. Where does Paul live before he moves to Tangerine? Label where you think Tangerine County might be located on the map. In what part of Tangerine County is Lake Windsor Downs?
- Football is an important part of life in the South. Many people are football fans. Why do you think this is so?
- People in Tangerine still rely on the citrus industry for their income. What are the pros and cons of relying on farming to provide for the family?



I. PROLOGUE—FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

BEFORE READING

*Focus Your Reading**Vocabulary Words to Know*

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

tomb—a chamber or vault for the dead
receding—growing smaller; decreasing in size
predator—one that preys, destroys, or devours
hurtling—moving rapidly or forcefully
billowing—rising or rolling in waves or surges

retention—the act of keeping in possession or in tact
exploits—notable or heroic acts
calisthenics—systematic bodily exercises performed without using equipment
torque—a turning or twisting force
benefactor—a person who benefits another; one who makes a gift

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

A **median strip** is a paved or planted narrow area of land between lanes on a highway.

A **foyer** is an entrance hallway usually at the front door of a house.

A **great room** is a large room that usually serves several functions, such as a living room and a dining room.

Sod refers to the grass-covered surface of the ground.

An **osprey** is a large fish-eating hawk. It is dark brown in color above and mostly white below.

An **eclipse** is a total or partial shadowing of the sun or the moon. The eclipse in the book is a solar eclipse.

A **lightning rod** is a grounded metallic rod set on top of a building to protect it from lightning. Rather than damage the building, lightning will be attracted to the rod and travel down it to the ground.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. Why do Paul and his family move?

2. How has Tangerine County changed over the years?

3. How do Paul and his family adjust to living in Lake Windsor Downs?

4. How does Paul feel about being legally blind?

5. How does Paul feel about his brother, Erik?

I. PROLOGUE—FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

DURING READING

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use that word in a new sentence of your own.

1. "It was completely empty now, and the door was flung wide open, like something wild had just escaped from it. Like it was the empty, two-story **tomb** of some runaway zombie."
tomb: _____
2. "But I turned back around anyway, and I looked west down our street at the **receding** line of black mailboxes."
receding: _____
3. "I heard a loud roar like an animal's, like a **predator** snarling."
predator: _____
4. "We would have refueled the Volvo while **hurtling** along at seventy-five miles per hour next to a moving convoy-refueling truck."
hurtling: _____
5. "Sure enough. Same size; same flames licking up the sides; same smoke **billowing** out."
billowing: _____
6. "Any new development like this has to have a **retention** pond for storm runoff."
retention: _____
7. "They both asked about his high school **exploits** back in Houston."
exploits: _____
8. "The players were doing **calisthenics** under a troubled-looking sky."
calisthenics: _____
9. "My steps slowed down, and I came to a dead stop, frozen there like a windup toy that had run out of **torque**."
torque: _____
10. "What will Arthur do for Erik, his sponsor, his **benefactor**, his ticket to the big time?"
benefactor: _____

I. PROLOGUE—FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

DURING READING

*Check Your Understanding**Multiple Choice*

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. Where are Paul and his family moving to at the beginning of the book?
 - a. Lake Windsor Downs in Tangerine County, Florida
 - b. Houston, Texas
 - c. Villas at Versailles in Tallahassee, Florida
2. Who is Old Charley Burns?
 - a. president of the Homeowners' Association
 - b. Erik's new football coach
 - c. Mr. Fisher's new boss
3. What is the mysterious fire that Paul and his mother discover?
 - a. a brush fire
 - b. a muck fire
 - c. a fire caused by a lightning strike
4. What position does Erik play in football?
 - a. place kicker
 - b. quarterback
 - c. running back
5. What are three drawbacks that Paul and his mother learn about the middle school?
 - a. It doesn't have a soccer team, a gym, or a cafeteria.
 - b. It doesn't have an auditorium, a soccer team, or indoor classrooms for seventh and eighth graders.
 - c. It doesn't have a gym, an auditorium, or indoor classrooms for seventh and eighth graders.
6. What position does Paul play in soccer?
 - a. fullback
 - b. goalie
 - c. center
7. How does Paul think he became legally blind?
 - a. He stared at a solar eclipse for too long.
 - b. Someone hit him with a metal bat.
 - c. He played in an abandoned refrigerator.
8. What doesn't Erik do that most people his age do?
 - a. He doesn't look for a college to go to.
 - b. He doesn't try to get a girlfriend.
 - c. He doesn't drive.
9. Who is the coach of Paul's soccer team?
 - a. Mr. Walski
 - b. Coach Warner
 - c. Mr. Murrow
10. What do the kids on the soccer team nickname Paul?
 - a. Cola Boy
 - b. Mars
 - c. Eclipse Boy

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. What sights is Paul surprised to see when he and his mom drive through Florida?
2. What is the explosion Paul hears in the middle of the night?
3. What does Paul dislike about his brother, Erik?
4. What is an IEP, and why does Paul not want to have one?
5. What happens every afternoon in Lake Windsor Downs?
6. Who is Kerri Gardner, and how does Paul meet her?
7. Who is Arthur Bauer, and what is his importance in Erik's life?
8. Why is it important to Paul's mother that they live in a nice house?
9. What is odd about Mr. Donnelly's house?
10. What does it mean for Paul to be "on the bus"?

Deepen Your Understanding

Paul is the *protagonist*, or the main character, in *Tangerine*. His brother, Erik, is the *antagonist*, or the character who opposes the main character. In many cases, the protagonist is the character the reader is rooting for, and the antagonist is the character the reader is rooting against. Do you think that this is how Edward Bloor wants us to see Paul and Erik? What are some clues in the text that indicate that Bloor wants us to root for Paul? What are some clues that he wants us to root against Erik?

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

solemnly—gloomily

colossal—of an exceptional or astonishing degree; enormous

pointedly—having a point; being to the point

partitioned—separated into units

affliction—the cause of persistent pain or distress; great suffering

intervened—came between; interfered

din—a loud noise

hastily—hurriedly

ominously—in a foreboding or foreshadowing manner

elated—filled with joy or pride

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

An **undertaker** is a person who prepares the dead for burial and takes care of funeral arrangements.

Koi are a type of Japanese fish large in size and vibrant in color.

A **rosary** is a Roman Catholic devotion consisting of meditation during which prayers counted on a string of beads are recited.

Affidavits are sworn statements made in writing.

A **sinkhole** is a hollow place in which drainage collects.

A **bottleneck** is a point where traffic is congested.

The **focal point** refers to the middle, or focus, of the sinkhole.

A **geologist** is a person who studies rocks and minerals.

A **cavern** is a large cave.

Tallahassee is the capital of Florida.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. How will Erik and Arthur benefit from Mike Costello's death?
2. What happens to Paul's status as the soccer team's goalie?
3. What happens at the carnival, and how does Paul feel about it?
4. What is the disaster that happens at Paul's school, and how does he play a role in it?
5. How does the sinkhole change Paul's life?

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use that word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “Erik got out of the passenger side and walked up to Mom, slowly and **solemnly**.”
solemnly: _____
2. “Soccer practice was a **colossal** drag. We spent most of the time playing a pointless (and goal-less) scrimmage game . . .”
colossal: _____
3. “She said good night to me, but she **pointedly** ignored Dad.”
pointedly: _____
4. “I was really fascinated as I prowled through the dark, **partitioned** rooms of the exhibits.”
partitioned: _____
5. “No one ever discovered what happened to him to cause this strange **affliction**.”
affliction: _____
6. “Joey didn’t say anything else, so Coach Walski **intervened**.”
intervened: _____
7. “Joey shouted back over the **din**, ‘They must all be trapped in there!’”
din: _____
8. “The main building of the middle school and all the buildings of the high school have been certified as ‘structurally safe’ by a team of engineers **hastily** assembled by Old Charley Burns.”
hastily: _____
9. “When she got to the Director of Civil Engineering and read out Dad’s name, the crowd buzzed **ominously**.”
ominously: _____
10. “I was **elated**, and I wasn’t budging.”
elated: _____

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. How does Mike Costello die?
 - a. He runs headfirst into the goal post.
 - b. He is struck by lightning at football practice.
 - c. He is run over by Arthur's Land Cruiser.
2. How does Paul's mother suggest they avoid lightning strikes at football practice?
 - a. They move practice to 6:30 in the morning.
 - b. They stop practicing when there is a storm coming.
 - c. They practice in the gym.
3. How does Paul react to Coach Walski's words?
 - a. He runs away from him and hides.
 - b. He screams at the coach and the other kids on the team.
 - c. He yells and then cries.
4. Who is Paul happy to see at the carnival?
 - a. Cara Clifton
 - b. Kerri Gardner
 - c. Joey Costello
5. What is Paul so interested in at the carnival?
 - a. the Wonders of the World exhibit
 - b. the double Ferris wheel
 - c. the Octopus
6. Who tells Coach Walski, Mrs. Gates, and Mr. Murrow about the Tangerine Middle soccer boys being at the Wonders of the World exhibit?
 - a. Paul
 - b. Joey
 - c. Kerri and Cara
7. What disaster happens at Paul's school out by the portables?
 - a. an earthquake
 - b. a tornado
 - c. a sinkhole
8. Who cleans the mud off Paul's glasses?
 - a. Tommy
 - b. Gino
 - c. Joey
9. Who calls Paul's family to let them know that the news about the sinkhole is on CNN?
 - a. Paul's grandparents
 - b. the Costellos
 - c. Mr. Donnelly
10. What are the options for the seventh graders for school now that the portables have been destroyed?
 - a. They can go to school at a local private school, or they can squeeze into the high school.
 - b. They can go to the middle school with the sixth graders or to Tangerine Middle School for the rest of the term.
 - c. They can go to a local private school, or they can go to Tangerine Middle School for the rest of the term.

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. Why would Paul not want Erik to die like Mike Costello did?
2. How does Paul's mother react to Mike Costello's death?
3. Why does Paul think Coach Walski wants to talk to him? What does the coach actually want?
4. Why do Joey's parents want him to go to the carnival?
5. Why is Paul's mother appalled at the soccer kids from Tangerine Middle riding in the truck?
6. Why are Paul, Joey, Adam, and the other boys who went to the carnival with them called to Mr. Murrow's office?
7. How do Paul and Joey react to the sinkhole?
8. Why does Paul's father get Old Charley Burns's job?
9. Where does Paul's mother want him to go to school, and how does she try to convince him to go there?
10. Why does Paul want to go to Tangerine Middle School?

Deepen Your Understanding

In this section, Paul learns that he is ineligible (not allowed) to play soccer for Lake Windsor Middle because of his IEP (Individualized Education Plan). He is frustrated because he knows that even though he is legally blind, he can still play soccer. He is one of the best players on the team. On the other hand, a rule is a rule, and there are reasons for it. Make a list of pros and cons stating why you think Paul should or should not be part of the soccer team.

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

menacing—threatening

earnestly—intensely; seriously

banter—witty and animated joking

jeering—speaking or calling out in mockery

enforcer—one who gives force to; one who carries out effectively

mercifully—fortunately

berserk—frenzied; crazed

momentum—strength or force gained by motion

pantomiming—conveying a story by bodily movements

scarce—intentionally absent

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

A **gnat** is a type of a small biting fly.

Turpentine is a yellowish-brown fluid obtained from pine and fur trees. Turpentine is used as a thinner for paint.

Whippoorwills are nocturnal birds in eastern North America. The distinctive call of these birds is reflected in their name.

An **Erector set** is a toy construction set.

The Three Stooges were a group of slapstick comedians. They made hundreds of theatrical short films in the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s. This was the longest such series in history.

Starkist is a brand of tuna fish. **Charlie the Tuna** is the company's mascot. He appears on their commercials and on their labels.

A **gong** is a disk-shaped instrument or bell that is struck with a hammer as a signal.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. What is Paul's experience like at Tangerine Middle School?
2. How is Paul treated by the kids on the Tangerine Middle School soccer team?
3. How does Paul like his new role on the soccer team?
4. What is happening to the Erik Fisher Football Dream?
5. How does Joey feel about Tangerine Middle School?

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use that word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “There were larger groups, too. **Menacing**-looking gangs, just standing around watching the karate kickers go at it.”
menacing: _____
2. “She had her head down, talking **earnestly** to Shandra.”
earnestly: _____
3. “Arthur picked up the **banter**. ‘No. No resemblance. None at all.’”
banter: _____
4. “They turned to us and started **jeering** as we began our lap around the field.”
jeering: _____
5. “Maybe he was too caught up with being the **enforcer** for our side, with insulting the Whippoorwills’ defenders and threatening their lives.”
enforcer: _____
6. “**Mercifully** the rain let up in the second half.”
mercifully: _____
7. “I started to get up, but before I could, the fullback stretched out my goggles from my face, scooped up a handful of mud, and smeared it in my eyes. *In my eyes!* I went **berserk**!”
berserk: _____
8. “Two defenders sandwiched him and threw him off balance, but his **momentum** carried him on.”
momentum: _____
9. “Then they gestured back to the other Cypress Bay fans, like they were **pantomiming**, *See? We made it. It didn’t collapse.*”
pantomiming: _____
10. “Mom always seems eager to get on the phone with Grandmom and Grandpop. Dad and Erik certainly don’t. They make themselves **scarce**.”
scarce: _____

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. Who is Paul's escort on his first and second day at Tangerine Middle School?
 - a. Shandra
 - b. Theresa
 - c. Maya
2. What is Paul's new nickname on the soccer team?
 - a. Tuna Man
 - b. Fishing Pole
 - c. Fisher Man
3. What is Paul's jersey number on the soccer team?
 - a. 10
 - b. 1
 - c. 5
4. At Tangerine Middle's first soccer game of the season, what do the Palmetto fans throw at the Tangerine players?
 - a. acorns
 - b. tangerines
 - c. pinecones
5. What is Erik's football number?
 - a. 10
 - b. 1
 - c. 5
6. Who takes Victor to the emergency room during their second soccer game?
 - a. Tino's father
 - b. Paul's mother
 - c. Mr. Donnelly
7. What is Joey's new nickname on the soccer team?
 - a. Starkist
 - b. Hook Boy
 - c. Charlie the Tuna
8. Why does Paul's mother contact Mr. Donnelly?
 - a. His landscaping doesn't meet the codes of the Architectural Committee.
 - b. She thinks he will want to write a story about Shandra and Maya.
 - c. She wants him to know about Victor's injury.
9. What is the broad topic of Paul's cross-curricular project?
 - a. Florida lakes
 - b. Florida agriculture
 - c. Florida citrus fruits
10. What shocking news does Paul learn from Joey in science class?
 - a. Joey turned in his uniform and quit the soccer team.
 - b. Lightning struck Mr. Donnelly's house for the fourth time.
 - c. Joey broke Paul's glasses.

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. How does Tangerine Middle School differ from Lake Windsor Downs Middle School?
2. What does Paul mean when he says that the “minorities are the majority”? What are some examples of this?
3. Who is Paul’s new language arts teacher, and why is Paul worried about her?
4. What is Joey’s reason for trying to take Mike’s shoes off after Mike was struck by lightning?
5. What happens to Erik during his first football game of the season?
6. Why is Paul surprised that Kerri Gardner might like him?
7. Why are some of the houses in Lake Windsor Downs covered with blue tents?
8. Why doesn’t Joey go over to Paul’s house anymore?
9. What is the mistake that is made in the *Tangerine Times*?
10. How does Joey feel about being in a group with Tino, Theresa, Henry D., and Paul?

Deepen Your Understanding

Paul indicates that at Tangerine Middle School the minorities are the majority. What does it mean to be a minority? What does it mean to be part of the majority? How is Paul a minority at Lake Windsor Middle School? How is he part of the majority at Tangerine Middle School?

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

prominence—the quality of standing out
saturating—treating something to the point where no more can be absorbed, dissolved, or retained
gravely—in a serious or dignified manner
liable—obligated according to law or equity; responsible
pursue—to follow up or proceed with

dilapidated—decayed, deteriorated, or fallen into partial ruin, especially through neglect or misuse
congregated—collected into a group or a crowd; assembled
archenemy—a principal foe
retaliate—to repay; to get revenge
vehemently—in a deeply felt or impassioned manner

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

An **alcove** is a small recessed section of a room.

Termites are small insects that feed on wood.

Encephalitis is an inflammation of the brain.

Insecticides and **pesticides** are agents used to kill insects and pests, such as termites and mice. An **exterminator** is a person who would use these agents to kill off such insects and pests. **Orkin** is the name of an exterminating company.

Cattails are tall, reedy marsh plants that are green on the bottom and have brown furry stalks on top.

Stucco is a fine plaster used to decorate walls. It is also used as an exterior coating for buildings.

Kumquats are any type of yellowish-orange citrus fruit with a spongy rind. Kumquats are usually used for preserves.

Skeeters refer to mosquitoes.

Horticulture is the science of raising fruits, vegetables, flowers, or ornamental plants.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. Why is Paul so interested in the Cruz family and their tangerine groves?
2. How does Paul feel about being a War Eagle?
3. Why is visiting Mr. Donnelly's house to meet with the football boosters an important experience for Paul?
4. What does Paul remember about his eyes?
5. Why is the last soccer game of the year so significant for Paul?

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use that word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “Luis thinks it [a type of tangerine] could even return this area to its former **prominence** as the tangerine capital of the world.”
prominence: _____
2. “We rented pumps and spraying equipment and started **saturating** the area last month.”
saturating: _____
3. “Two children died in Tangerine last year after they were bitten by mosquitos.’ Mr. Costello nodded **gravely**.”
gravely: _____
4. “And whether his attitude likes it or not, he’s **liable** for that and for my missing property.”
liable: _____
5. “If you think you have a case against him, then by all means, **pursue** it.”
pursue: _____
6. “But is it really worth your time and money to hire a lawyer and go to court just to take some guy’s **dilapidated** pickup truck away?”
dilapidated: _____
7. “We ran into the building and **congregated** around the double doors in the back.”
congregated: _____
8. “It came down to the last game last year, too. That’s why they’re our **archenemy** now.”
archenemy: _____
9. “If you **retaliate**, you’re playing their game. If you get focused on soccer, you’re playing your game.”
retaliate: _____
10. “I shook my head **vehemently**. ‘You didn’t choke, Gino. You missed. That’s all.’”
vehemently: _____

IV. TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3–FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

DURING READING

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. What are some of the problems discussed at the Homeowners' Association meeting?
 - a. termites, mosquitoes, and roaches
 - b. robberies, the vandalized guardhouse, and the missing koi
 - c. termites, robberies, and the missing koi
2. How does Paul know Henry D.'s brother, Wayne?
 - a. He is the exterminator.
 - b. He's the fireman who showed up when they called about the muck fire.
 - c. He has been to Paul's house for one of the Homeowners' Association meetings.
3. What happens to Old Charley Burns?
 - a. He gets his old job back, and Paul's father is demoted.
 - b. He has a heart attack.
 - c. He fights to get his job back and takes Tangerine County to court.
4. Where is Arthur when Paul and his family visit Mr. Donnelly?
 - a. He is hiding on Mr. Donnelly's back porch, listening to the conversations going on inside.
 - b. He is waiting for Erik on the football field with Paige and Tina.
 - c. He stays in his Land Cruiser, which is parked at Mr. Donnelly's house.
5. What is Erik's excuse for Arthur not wanting to go into Mr. Donnelly's?
 - a. He smells too much like bug spray.
 - b. He smells too much like tangerines.
 - c. He doesn't feel well.
6. What happens at the last home soccer game against Manatee Middle School?
 - a. A storm comes in, and they have to cancel the game.
 - b. Paul gets a goal, but it doesn't count.
 - c. both of the above
7. What middle school soccer players are tied in Tangerine County for second of top scorers?
 - a. Maya and Gino
 - b. Victor and Tommy
 - c. Victor and Gino
8. What are Tangerine Middle's and Lake Windsor Middle's records for the season right before the last game?
 - a. Tangerine 9-0-0 and Lake Windsor 9-0-2
 - b. Tangerine 9-0-0 and Lake Windsor 9-0-1
 - c. Tangerine 9-0-1 and Lake Windsor 9-0-0
9. Why does Paul have to substitute in the goal for Shandra?
 - a. She gets sick and has to go home.
 - b. She gets hit in the face with the ball, and it knocks her unconscious.
 - c. She hurts her ankle trying to kick the ball out of the goal.
10. How does the soccer game between Tangerine and Lake Windsor end?
 - a. Gino kicks it in the goal, and Lake Windsor wins.
 - b. Gino misses the goal, and Tangerine and Lake Windsor tie.
 - c. Victor misses the goal, and Tangerine and Lake Windsor tie.

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. What is the Golden Dawn tangerine, and why is it unique?
2. Why does Paul think it was a mistake to talk Joey into going to Tangerine Middle School?
3. What does Paul learn is the reason for the termites in all the houses?
4. What memory does Paul have about their backyard in Huntsville?
5. Why is Paul so proud to be part of an undefeated team?
6. Why is it significant that Luis was a goalie when he played soccer?
7. How does Tino react when Paul tells him that he was the one who ratted them out about the Ax-Man at the carnival?
8. What does Paul learn about Coach Betty Bright at Mr. Donnelly's?
9. How does Coach Bright respond to Mr. Walski's accusations that Paul is ineligible to play soccer?
10. Why is the bus ride back to Tangerine Middle so important to Paul?

Deepen Your Understanding

In this section, Paul learns what it means to be part of something. He has finally gained acceptance; he finally feels like he belongs somewhere. What does it mean to belong somewhere? Why do you think it is so important to Paul to be part of something?

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

neglected—given little attention or respect to

insolently—in an insultingly contemptuous manner

contort—to twist into a strained shape or expression

reckon—to suppose or think

vulnerable—capable of being physically wounded; open to attack or damage

urn—a closed vessel usually with a spigot for serving a hot beverage

revolting—extremely offensive

corrugated—formed or shaped into folds

despised—regarded as negligible, worthless, or distasteful

deteriorates—becomes impaired in quality, functioning, or condition

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

Yoo-Hoo is a chocolate-flavored drink.

A **blackjack** is a hand weapon that usually consists of metal enclosed by leather with a strap for a handle.

Orlando is a city in Florida with many tourist attractions, including Disney World and Universal Studios.

Epcot is one of the theme parks in Disney World.

A **wishbone** is a forked bone in front of the breastbone of birds. Many people break this bone after they have cooked a turkey to see who gets the longer portion. The person who breaks off the larger portion is said to have his or her wish come true.

Kmart is a department store.

A **cat burglar** is a burglar who can enter and exit a building without making any noise.

A **lean-to** is a rough shed or shelter with a roof having only one slope.

An **aneurysm** is an abnormal blood-filled dilation of a blood vessel, especially an artery.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. What happens to Tino when he goes to Paul's house, and what effect does this have on the rest of this section of the book?
2. What happens to Luis Cruz?
3. Why does Paul want to help the Cruz family fight the freeze?
4. What does Paul realize about his family?
5. How has Paul changed by the end of this section?

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use that word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “We all climbed into the bed of the pickup and rode over to Lake Windsor Downs in the open air (a fact I **neglected** to mention to Mom).”
neglected: _____
2. “Then Erik turned his full attention back to Tino, standing **insolently** before him.”
insolently: _____
3. “Erik’s face started to **contort**. The snake smile was gone now, replaced by something else.”
contort: _____
4. “‘No. I **reckon** they’re out fighting the freeze.’”
reckon: _____
5. “The trees are injured already; they’re weak and **vulnerable**.”
vulnerable: _____
6. “The desk was still there, but now it had a big aluminum coffee **urn** sitting on it, with Styrofoam cups, creamer, and sugar spread out around it.”
urn: _____
7. “A **revolting** smell of burnt rubber seeped up from the debris.”
revolting: _____
8. “We walked toward the sound of a diesel pump until we came to a rickety **corrugated**-iron shed, kind of a lean-to that was open on one side.”
corrugated: _____
9. “That would sound a lot better than the truth—that their own teammates **despised** them so much that they helped a stranger beat them up.”
despised: _____
10. “‘The aneurysm gradually **deteriorates** due to the constant pressure of the blood passing through it.’”
deteriorates: _____

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. How do Tino, Theresa, Henry D., and Paul get to Paul's house after school?
 - a. Paul's mother picks them up at school.
 - b. Wayne gives them a ride in the back of his truck.
 - c. Luis gives them a ride in the back of his truck.
2. What look does Paul notice on Erik's face after Erik hits Tino?
 - a. a look of sorrow
 - b. a look of anger
 - c. a look of hatred
3. What does Paul's mother smell in their storage space?
 - a. insecticide
 - b. tangerines
 - c. gasoline
4. According to Henry D., why are a lot of kids absent from school?
 - a. They are picking tangerines and other citrus fruits.
 - b. They are all sick.
 - c. They are fighting the freeze.
5. What does Paul tell his mother he is doing at Tino and Theresa's?
 - a. fighting the freeze
 - b. playing soccer and sleeping over
 - c. working on their science project and sleeping over
6. What is Paul's family doing while he is out in the groves?
 - a. sitting in front of a fire, drinking hot cocoa, and listening to Christmas music
 - b. eating pizza and then going to Erik's football game
 - c. decorating the Christmas tree and eating popcorn
7. How many hours does Paul sleep after he gets home from the groves?
 - a. 16
 - b. 18
 - c. 19
8. Whose photo is missing from the article in the *Tangerine Times* on the All-County Middle School soccer team?
 - a. Maya's
 - b. Gino's
 - c. Shandra's
9. What does Paul tell Mr. Costello about the koi?
 - a. They cannot survive the cold.
 - b. They are being eaten by the ospreys.
 - c. They are being stolen by the same robbers who are stealing from the tented houses.
10. Why does Theresa call Paul?
 - a. She thanks him for helping them fight the freeze.
 - b. She tells him that Tino wants him to go to the funeral.
 - c. She tells him not to go to Luis's funeral.

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. Why do Tino, Theresa, and Henry D. go to Paul's after school?
2. What does Paul see when he hides under the bleachers at Erik's football practice?
3. What is one thing Paul likes about his grandparents?
4. What happened in Erik's last football game of the season?
5. What point does Paul make to his father, and what does his father say to defend himself?
6. Who probably smashed the mailboxes in Lake Windsor Downs and spray-painted on the wall?
7. Why does Kerri Gardner call Paul?
8. Why are the people in Lake Windsor Downs thankful for the freeze?
9. How does Luis Cruz die?
10. What does Paul do the day of Luis's funeral?

Deepen Your Understanding

Paul wants to tell his parents about Erik and what a horrible person he is, but he can't bring himself to do it. Why do you think he has such a hard time telling them? Do you think you would feel the same way? Explain.

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

gesturing—making a movement that expresses or emphasizes an idea, or attitude

prostrate—stretched out facedown in submission

apparition—an unusual or unexpected sight; a ghost

nullify—to make of no value or consequence

notarized—to acknowledge or attest by a notary public (a certified public officer)

ransacked—searched through to commit robbery

compelled—caused by an overwhelming pressure

curtly—in a rude and short manner

notorious—generally known and talked of

unprecedented—a completely new occurrence

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

A **mirage** is an optical effect caused by the reflection of rays of light meeting heated air. Mirages can sometimes be seen at sea, in the desert, or over hot pavement, and they may have the appearance of a pool of water or a mirror.

A **roundhouse** is a kick or a punch delivered with a wide swing.

A **hammerlock** is a wrestling hold in which an opponent's arm is bent and held behind the back.

Porcelain is a type of fine ceramic ware that is fired at high temperatures.

A **Polaroid** refers to a type of film that immediately develops after a picture is taken. When a picture is taken, the picture comes out of the camera as a black sheet, and then it slowly develops into the picture that was taken.

Flunkies are people who perform general duties for others.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. How has Paul changed since the beginning of the book?

2. What is the truth that Paul learns?

3. What changes have occurred in Paul's family?

4. How has Paul grown as a person?

5. How have the events in the book led to this outcome?

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use that word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “The principal, Mr. Bridges, was pacing nervously and **gesturing** to Coach Warner.”
gesturing: _____
2. “Coach Warner himself grabbed Tino, who was still standing over Erik’s **prostrate** body.”
prostrate: _____
3. “They drove away leaving that name, Castor, hanging in the air like some horrible **apparition**, like the key to a lock, like the solution to an unsolved crime.”
apparition: _____
4. “The article itself began, ‘The Tangerine County Sports Commission, meeting in emergency session last night, voted to **nullify** all victories by the Lake Windsor High School football team over the last three seasons.’”
nullify: _____
5. “The article quoted a Commission member as saying that Antoine ‘had contacted them, had met with them, and had presented them with a **notarized** statement.’”
notarized: _____
6. “‘I never broke into an old lady’s bedroom, and **ransacked** through her underwear drawer, and stole her pearl necklace that was handed down to her by her own grandmother, and then gave it to my girlfriend like I was a big man or something.’”
ransacked: _____
7. “‘No, sir.’ Then I felt **compelled** to add, ‘I wasn’t brave enough to give my statement.’”
compelled: _____
8. “He said **curtly**, ‘That’s easy to say now. It’s easy enough, . . . after the fact, to say I-told-you-so.’”
curtly: _____
9. “‘And now I’m going to enter this nerd school, not as a fellow nerd, but as a feared and **notorious** outlaw?’”
notorious: _____
10. “Then we went on an enormous shopping spree, **unprecedented** in my lifetime.”
unprecedented: _____

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. Why does Joey ask Paul if he is trying to be a hero again?
 - a. Paul helps pick up the dirt spilled from the tree.
 - b. Paul warns Mr. Bridges that the tree is going to fall.
 - c. Paul tries to catch the falling tree.
2. Who are the unexpected visitors at the Senior Awards Night?
 - a. Theresa and Tino
 - b. Henry D. and Tino
 - c. Victor and Tino
3. How does Tino escape from the gym?
 - a. Paul jumps on Coach Warner's back, allowing Tino to run away.
 - b. Paul starts screaming to distract Coach Warner, allowing Tino to run away.
 - c. Erik and Arthur run at Coach Warner and Tino. When Coach Warner tries to stop them from getting to Tino, Tino gets away.
4. How does Paul's father react when Paul confronts his parents about what happened to his eyes?
 - a. He leaves the house.
 - b. He cries.
 - c. He yells at Paul's mother.
5. Whose job does Paul want next year on the Tangerine Middle soccer team?
 - a. Shandra's
 - b. Maya's
 - c. Dolly's
6. Why is Paul's father so angry about Antoine's confession to Mr. Donnelly and the sports commission?
 - a. Now everyone knows that Erik is guilty.
 - b. Erik won't be able to go to college.
 - c. Erik's records have been nullified.
7. Why do Paul's parents hold an "important meeting" at their house?
 - a. Erik and Arthur have stolen items from the tented houses.
 - b. Paul's father wants to meet with the football parents to discuss the nullified records.
 - c. They have a Homeowners' Association meeting to discuss the problems in Lake Windsor Downs.
8. Who shows up at Paul's house after the police take Arthur away?
 - a. Mr. Donnelly
 - b. Paul's grandparents
 - c. The Costellos
9. What is the punishment Paul expects from Dr. Johnson?
 - a. a three-week suspension
 - b. an indefinite suspension
 - c. expulsion
10. What does Tino call Paul that means so much to him?
 - a. Fisher Man
 - b. brother
 - c. a notorious outlaw

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. What does the girl handing out programs at the assembly call Erik?
2. How does Paul escape from Coach Warner's office, and where does he go?
3. What does Paul remember about how he lost his eyesight?
4. What advice does Antoine give Paul?
5. What does Mr. Donnelly write about in his article in the newspaper?
6. How does Paul react to his father's not knowing Antoine lives in Tangerine?
7. What does Joey call Paul to say during the meeting with the Fishers and the Bauers at Paul's house?
8. How do Paul's grandparents react to the story about Erik?
9. What does Paul give to Theresa when he goes to Tangerine Middle to meet with Dr. Johnson?
10. How does Paul feel when he leaves Tangerine Middle School?

Deepen Your Understanding

One of the themes in *Tangerine* is facing fear and overcoming it. Think about some fears that Paul faces and overcomes. List them below. After considering this list, do you think Paul is a hero? Why or why not?

End-of-Book Test

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. What was Paul's new town in Florida once known for?
 - a. turpentine
 - b. tangerines
 - c. mosquitoes
2. What does Paul's father consider the most important sport?
 - a. football
 - b. soccer
 - c. track
3. What is the name of the street the Fishers live on in Lake Windsor Downs?
 - a. Kensington Gardens Drive
 - b. Lake Windsor Drive
 - c. Kew Gardens Drive
4. What is the important event of Paul's life that he cannot remember?
 - a. how his brother, Erik, became so good at football
 - b. how he learned to play soccer
 - c. how he lost his eyesight
5. What is the mascot of the Lake Windsor schools?
 - a. the war eagles
 - b. the seagulls
 - c. the ospreys
6. What does Joey do when Mike Costello is struck by lightning?
 - a. He runs into the school to call an ambulance.
 - b. He tries to take Mike's shoes off.
 - c. He listens for Mike's heartbeat.
7. Why does Paul no longer play on the soccer team at Lake Windsor Middle?
 - a. He cannot see well enough to play.
 - b. He has a fight with Joey and doesn't want to face him at practice.
 - c. He has an IEP, and he cannot play for insurance reasons.
8. What happens at Lake Windsor Middle School that causes the school to run on a split shift?
 - a. Some of the portables fall into a sinkhole, and they are no longer safe to hold classes in.
 - b. Lightning strikes the portables, and the parents won't risk sending their kids to classes there.
 - c. The muck fire burns a few of the portables, and now all the portables are considered unsafe.
9. What is unique about the soccer team at Tangerine Middle?
 - a. The team has been undefeated for the past three years.
 - b. There are no subs on the team.
 - c. Both girls and boys play on the team.
10. What Lake Windsor Middle student joins Paul at Tangerine Middle?
 - a. Gino
 - b. Kerri Gardner
 - c. Joey

(continued)

End-of-Book Test (continued)

11. Who is Luis Cruz, and what does he do?
 - a. He is Henry D.'s brother, and he volunteers for the fire department.
 - b. He is Tino and Theresa's brother, and he works in the family citrus groves.
 - c. He is Tino and Theresa's father, and he owns a citrus grove.
12. Why do some of the houses in Lake Windsor Downs have to be tented?
 - a. They have termites and must be fumigated.
 - b. They have mosquitoes and must be sprayed.
 - c. They have to be repainted because of the humidity.
13. What secret file does Paul find on his father's computer?
 - a. a document that contains the truth about his eyesight
 - b. Erik's scholarship offers
 - c. Erik's football records
14. What is Paul's favorite thing about the tangerine groves?
 - a. the gratifying labor
 - b. the Cruz family
 - c. the scent
15. Why does Paul like Mr. Donnelly?
 - a. Mr. Donnelly writes an article about his soccer team for the newspaper.
 - b. Mr. Donnelly pays attention to Paul and not just Erik.
 - c. Mr. Donnelly used to play soccer in high school.
16. Who is the archenemy of the Tangerine Middle soccer team?
 - a. the Cypress Bay Cardinals
 - b. the Palmetto Whippoorwills
 - c. the Lake Windsor Seagulls
17. What does Paul sleep through after fighting the freeze?
 - a. Thanksgiving dinner
 - b. his last soccer game
 - c. Senior Awards Night
18. According to Paul, what has happened to all the koi?
 - a. They died during the freeze.
 - b. They have been stolen and sold by Arthur and Erik.
 - c. They have been eaten by ospreys.
19. How does Luis Cruz die?
 - a. Arthur Bauer hits him in the head with a blackjack.
 - b. A branch falls on his head while fighting the freeze.
 - c. He gets hypothermia while fighting the freeze.
20. Who drives Paul to school his first day at St. Anthony's?
 - a. his father
 - b. Mr. Costello
 - c. his mother

Answer Key

I. PROLOGUE—FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Build Your Vocabulary

Wording of definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context of the sentence and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. a | 6. b |
| 2. c | 7. a |
| 3. b | 8. c |
| 4. a | 9. a |
| 5. c | 10. b |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

- Paul is surprised to see the farmland and citrus trees being burned. He expected Florida to have beaches everywhere.
- The explosion Paul wakes up to in the middle of the night is a thunderstorm.
- Paul resents the way his father pays attention only to Erik. Mr. Fisher feels that the world revolves around Erik. All Paul's father cares about is the Erik Fisher Football Dream. Also, Paul is afraid of Erik.
- An IEP is an Individualized Education Plan. Paul gets one at school because he is legally blind. Paul believes, however, that he can see just fine, and he doesn't want special treatment.
- It thunders and rains every afternoon in Lake Windsor Downs.
- Kerri Gardner is a girl who goes to school with Paul. He meets her when she comes to his class to take him to Mr. Murrow's office. Mr. Murrow wants Kerri to walk around with Paul so she can "act as his eyes." Paul later tells Kerri that he can see just fine, and they agree that she won't walk around with him.
- Arthur Bauer is Erik's new friend, and they are always together. He is on the football team with Erik, but he isn't very good. Erik gets rides with Arthur in his Land Cruiser because he doesn't drive.
- Paul's mother never lived in nice houses when

she was growing up. She believes that a home is a family's biggest investment.

- Mr. Donnelly's house has been struck by lightning three times.
- Being "on the bus" means that Paul goes to away games with the soccer team. Everyone who tries out makes the team, but that doesn't mean that they will play. They all dress for home games, but they can't all go to away games because the bus is so small. Only half the kids on the team make it "on the bus."

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

II. TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5—FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Build Your Vocabulary

Wording of definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context of the sentence and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. b | 6. a |
| 2. a | 7. c |
| 3. c | 8. b |
| 4. b | 9. a |
| 5. a | 10. b |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

- Paul wouldn't want Erik to die because he knows that Erik holds the secret as to how Paul became legally blind.
- Paul's mother is terrified that other kids on the football team will get hurt. She starts calling football parents to get them to agree with her.
- Paul thinks that Coach Walski is going to tell him that he is officially "on the bus." When he goes to talk to him, however, he learns that Coach Walski cannot let him be on the team anymore because he has an IEP.
- They want him to go to the carnival because "life goes on." They want him to get his mind off Mike's death.

5. Paul's mother is appalled because they are all riding in the back of a truck without seatbelts.
 6. They are called to Mr. Murrow's office because they have been accused of vandalizing the Wonders of the World exhibit at the carnival.
 7. Paul and Joey act as heroes. They help to rescue the students in the portables.
 8. The Eyewitness News team found out that Old Charley Burns didn't inspect any new development plans. Instead, he was away at stock-car races or at football games.
 9. Paul's mother wants him to go to St. Anthony's Catholic School. She tells him that not all the kids who go there are Catholic and that other kids from Lake Windsor Downs will be going there, too.
 10. Paul wants to go to Tangerine Middle because he will have a chance to start over. He won't have an IEP, and he will be able to play on the soccer team.
2. By saying that the "minorities are the majority," Paul means that the kids who would have been minorities at Lake Windsor are the majority here. For example, many of the students at Lake Windsor come from wealthy families. Most of the kids at Tangerine Middle School do not.
 3. Paul's new language arts teacher is Mrs. Murrow, who is married to the head of guidance at Lake Windsor Middle School. He is worried that Mrs. Murrow will find out from Mr. Murrow that he has an IEP and then everyone at Tangerine Middle will know.
 4. Joey explains to Paul that he tried to take Mike's shoes off because Mike always felt better when he had his shoes off. Joey says that taking his shoes off was the first thing Mike always did when he got home.
 5. Erik has the most embarrassing moment in his football career. At a moment in the football game when Erik goes to kick the ball, Antoine Thomas takes the ball and starts running with it instead of holding it there for Erik to kick. Erik then flies into the air and lands on his back in the mud.
 6. He is surprised that Kerri can see past his glasses. He can't believe that she doesn't think there is anything wrong with him even though he wears thick glasses.
 7. The houses need to be fumigated because they have termites.
 8. Joey has not been to Paul's since Erik and Arthur made fun of him for taking off Mike's shoes. He doesn't want to run into them at Paul's.
 9. Mr. Donnelly puts a picture of Nita in the paper with a caption that reads "Maya Pandhi leads all scorers in Tangerine County."
 10. Joey doesn't want to be in a group with Tino. He doesn't mind being with Henry D. or Theresa, but he is intimidated by Tino because he made fun of Joey at soccer practice.

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

III. MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18–MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

Build Your Vocabulary

Wording of definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context of the sentence and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. b | 6. a |
| 2. c | 7. c |
| 3. c | 8. b |
| 4. a | 9. b |
| 5. b | 10. a |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

1. The first thing that Paul finds different is the karate kickers and other kids out in front of the school. He also notes that the building is very different from Lake Windsor Middle; this building has three floors. He also states that the rooms and people are very different.

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary, but may include the following: Paul is a minority at Lake Windsor because he is different from all the other kids. All the students seem to be the same, and he just does not fit in with them. At Tangerine Middle, all the students are different. They wouldn't fit in with the students at Lake Windsor either.

Paul finds comfort in that fact and is part of the majority at Tangerine Middle by being different.

IV. TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3–FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Build Your Vocabulary

Wording of definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context of the sentence and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. c | 6. c |
| 2. b | 7. c |
| 3. b | 8. b |
| 4. c | 9. a |
| 5. a | 10. b |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

- The Golden Dawn tangerine is a new variety of citrus that Luis Cruz has come up with. It is seedless, juicy, and resistant to cold weather.
- Paul realizes that Joey doesn't fit in at Tangerine Middle like Paul does, because Joey fits in with his family, he fits in with his friends, and he fits in at Lake Windsor Middle School.
- Paul learns from Wayne that underneath the houses with termites are dead tangerine trees. The termites feed on the dead trees, but they also need to get up to the surface to get water.
- Paul remembers Erik standing behind him and his father asking him if he could see Erik. Then Erik would move, and his father would ask Paul if he could see him again. He also remembers Erik sneaking up behind him.
- Paul is proud to be part of an undefeated team because other teams fear the Tangerine Middle soccer team. He is usually the one who is scared of things, including his brother. He likes to be on the other side of fear. He also feels that he is part of something, which he doesn't feel with his family and he didn't feel at Lake Windsor Middle.
- When Tino mentions that his brother played goalie because he was handicapped, Paul wonders if Tino is making fun of Paul for being handicapped. Then Paul realizes that Tino doesn't

even consider him to be handicapped.

- Tino kicks Paul in the backside. He doesn't seem to be mad at Paul. He just wants Paul's Lake Windsor friends to know that he kicked Paul when he found out.
- Paul learns that Betty Bright was a track star in the Olympics. A German woman on the team hit her in the eye when they were hurdling, but the woman wasn't disqualified.
- Coach Bright reminds Coach Walski that Antoine Thomas, Shandra's brother and the star quarterback of the Lake Windsor High football team, does not live in Lake Windsor Downs, and he would also be ineligible if the commission knew where he lived.
- Paul finally feels like he is part of something. He feels accepted. He did a good job, and he is being praised for it, which is something he doesn't get from his family.

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary, but may include the following:

Paul doesn't fit in with his family. He doesn't feel like he belongs with them. He sees things they don't see. He doesn't feel accepted in his family because he is not part of the Erik Fisher Football Dream. He doesn't want the same things his family wants. On the soccer team, they all want to win, and Paul helps them win. After feeling like an outcast in his family for so long, Paul finally feels like he belongs somewhere.

V. MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20–THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Build Your Vocabulary

Wording of definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context of the sentence and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. b | 6. a |
| 2. a | 7. b |
| 3. a | 8. c |
| 4. c | 9. b |
| 5. c | 10. c |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

1. They go to Paul's house after school to work on their Golden Dawn tangerine report. They use Paul's computer because Theresa and Tino only have a typewriter.
2. Paul sees Luis Cruz show up at the football field to meet with Erik. Luis wants to get revenge for what Erik did to Tino. As Luis speaks to Erik, Arthur hits Luis in the head with a blackjack.
3. Paul likes that his grandparents don't take part in the Erik Fisher Football Dream. They never mention it, and when someone brings it up, they change the subject.
4. Erik never got to kick the ball. Antoine Thomas and Brian Baylor kept the ball away from Erik. Paul's father wonders if they deliberately tried to make Erik and Arthur look bad.
5. Paul makes the point that his father knows nothing about his soccer career, but he knows everything about Erik's football career. His father tries to defend himself by saying that this year was critical for Erik's future in football.
6. Kids from Tangerine probably vandalized the neighborhood because they were disappointed about their loss to Lake Windsor.
7. Kerri Gardner calls Paul to ask him to go to Joey's after Senior Awards Night as her date.
8. They are thankful for the freeze because it killed all the mosquitoes; they don't have to have Wayne spray insecticide anymore. The freeze signals the end of the thunderstorm season, which means Mr. Donnelly can take down his lightning rods.
9. Luis dies from the blow to his head by Arthur Bauer. Six days after Arthur hit him with the blackjack, an aneurysm bursts, and Luis dies.
10. Paul dresses in his suit and goes outside. He digs in the ground where the tangerine trees had been burned and buried and realizes that Luis will be buried with the trees. He says that he feels that Luis is now part of him.

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

VI. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1—WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6**Build Your Vocabulary**

Wording and definitions may vary. Students may

remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. a | 6. c |
| 2. c | 7. a |
| 3. a | 8. b |
| 4. b | 9. a |
| 5. b | 10. b |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

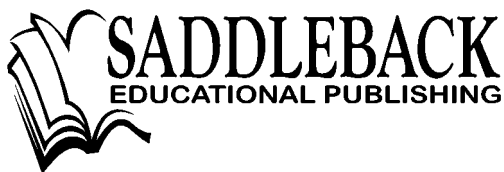
1. She calls Erik "Mr. Generosity."
2. Paul escapes out the emergency exit door in Coach Warner's office. He runs all the way to the perimeter road where "seagulls suck" is written on the wall.
3. Paul remembers Erik prying his eyes open while Erik's friend, Vincent Castor, sprayed paint in them.
4. Antoine tells Paul that the truth shall set him free.
5. Mr. Donnelly writes that he was once a football star in Tangerine County. Antoine broke his records, but then they were taken away because Antoine shouldn't have been playing for Lake Windsor Downs. Mr. Donnelly admits that he believes Antoine still deserves to hold the records.
6. Paul asks his father if he has ever seen Antoine around Lake Windsor Downs. When his father says no, Paul tells him that everybody knows Antoine lives in Tangerine.
7. Joey calls to say that the police are sitting at Arthur Bauer's house. When Paul tells him that Arthur is right there at his house, Joey asks if he can tell the police where he is.
8. Paul's grandparents are not surprised at the story about Erik. They tell Paul's parents that they are paying for not getting Erik help when he hurt Paul's eyes years ago.
9. Paul gives Theresa their report on the Golden Dawn tangerine.
10. Paul feels proud that he is now accepted by all the karate kickers and the "gangstas" at Tangerine Middle. He is no longer afraid.

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

END-OF-BOOK TEST

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1. b | 11. b |
| 2. a | 12. a |
| 3. a | 13. b |
| 4. c | 14. c |
| 5. b | 15. b |
| 6. b | 16. c |
| 7. c | 17. a |
| 8. a | 18. c |
| 9. c | 19. a |
| 10. c | 20. a |



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